

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original) A method of image filtering, comprising:

- (a) computing a modified auto-correlation in a first direction for each pixel in an image;
- (b) filtering said image with a lowpass filter; and
- (c) interpolating said image and said filtered image from step (b) wherein said interpolating at said each pixel depends upon said modified auto-correlation in a first direction.

Claim 2 (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- (a) after steps (a)-(c) of claim 1 repeating steps (a)-(c) of claim 1 with said first direction replaced by a second direction, said second direction perpendicular to said first direction; and with said image of step (c) replaced by said interpolated image using said modified auto-correlation in a first direction.

Claim 3 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein:

- (a) said modified auto-correlation of step (a) of claim 1 is $R_{xx}(1)/(R_{xx}(0) + \delta)$ where $R_{xx}(\cdot)$ is the auto-correlation function for the pixel values in an interval about said each pixel and with the DC component removed, and where δ is a parameter.

Claim 4 (original) The method of claim 3, wherein:

- (a) said interpolating of step (c) of claim 1 depends upon the amount $R_{xx}(1)/(R_{xx}(0) + \delta)$ of claim 3 exceeds a threshold.

Claim 5 (original) The method of claim 1, wherein:

- (a) said image is a color channel of a color image.